

Senate File 2299 - Reprinted

SENATE FILE 2299
BY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3128)

(As Amended and Passed by the Senate April 13, 2016)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to the early childhood Iowa initiative.
- 2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 135.106, subsection 4, Code 2016, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 4. It is the intent of the general assembly that priority
4 for ~~home visitation~~ family support funding be given to
5 approaches using evidence-based or promising models for ~~home~~
6 ~~visitation~~ family support.

7 Sec. 2. Section 256I.4, subsection 7, paragraph a, Code
8 2016, is amended to read as follows:

9 a. Waiver of existing rules, federal regulation, or
10 amendment of state law, or removal of other barriers. The
11 state board shall consider a community's current coverage of
12 family support programs and services when responding to an area
13 board's request for a waiver from the requirement in section
14 256I.9, subsection 3, paragraph "b".

15 Sec. 3. Section 256I.4, subsection 8, Code 2016, is amended
16 to read as follows:

17 8. ~~Develop and implement a levels of excellence rating~~
18 ~~system for use with the state board's designation process for~~
19 ~~area boards. Allow for flexibility and creativity of area~~
20 ~~boards in implementing area board responsibilities and provide~~
21 ~~authority for the area boards to support the communities in the~~
22 ~~areas served. The levels of excellence rating system shall~~
23 ~~utilize a tiered approach for recognizing the performance of~~
24 ~~an area board. The system shall provide for action to address~~
25 ~~poor performing areas as well as higher performing areas.~~
26 ~~Subject to the funding requirements and other requirements~~
27 ~~established in law, if an area board achieves the highest~~
28 ~~rating level, the state board may allow special flexibility~~
29 ~~provisions in regard to the funding appropriated or allocated~~
30 ~~for that area board. The state board shall determine how often~~
31 ~~area boards are reviewed under the system.~~

32 Sec. 4. Section 256I.7, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code
33 2016, is amended to read as follows:

34 a. The early childhood Iowa functions for an area shall be
35 performed under the authority of an early childhood Iowa area

1 board. The members of an area board shall be elected officials
2 or members of the public who are not employed by a provider of
3 services to or for the area board. In addition, the membership
4 of an area board shall include representation from ~~early~~
5 ~~care,~~ education, health, human services, business, and faith
6 interests, and at least one parent, grandparent, or guardian of
7 a child from zero through age five. However, not more than one
8 member shall represent the same entity or interest.

9 Sec. 5. Section 256I.8, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code
10 2016, is amended to read as follows:

11 c. Develop a comprehensive community plan for providing
12 services for children from zero through age five. At a
13 minimum, the plan shall do all of the following:

14 (1) Describe community and area needs for children from zero
15 through age five as identified through ongoing assessments.

16 (2) Describe the current and desired ~~levels of community~~
17 ~~and area coordination of services for children from zero~~
18 ~~through age five, including the involvement and specific~~
19 ~~responsibilities of all related organizations and entities~~
20 relationships and services between community providers.

21 (3) Identify ~~all~~ federal, state, local, and private funding
22 sources including funding estimates available in the early
23 childhood Iowa area that will be used to provide services to
24 children from zero through age five.

25 (4) Describe how funding sources will be used
26 ~~collaboratively and the degree to which the sources can~~
27 ~~be combined to provide necessary services to~~ support young
28 children and their families.

29 (5) Identify the desired results and the community-wide
30 indicators the area board expects to address through
31 implementation of the comprehensive community plan. ~~The plan~~
32 ~~shall identify community-specific, quantifiable performance~~
33 ~~measures to be reported in the area board's annual report and~~
34 ~~integration with the strategic plan adopted by the state board.~~

35 (6) ~~Describe the current status of support services to~~

1 ~~prevent the spread of infectious diseases, prevent child~~
2 ~~injuries, develop health emergency protocols, help with~~
3 ~~medication, and care for children with special health needs~~
4 ~~that are being provided to child care facilities registered or~~
5 ~~licensed under chapter 237A within the early childhood Iowa~~
6 ~~area.~~

7 Sec. 6. Section 256I.9, subsection 3, paragraphs b and d,
8 Code 2016, are amended to read as follows:

9 b. (1) Family support services and parent education
10 programs promoted to parents of children from zero through
11 age five. Family support services shall include but are not
12 limited to home visitation and parent education. Of the state
13 funding that an area board designates for family support
14 programs, at least sixty percent shall be committed to programs
15 with a home visitation component.

16 (2) It is the intent of the general assembly that priority
17 for ~~home visitation~~ family support program funding be given
18 to programs using evidence-based or promising models for ~~home~~
19 visitation family support.

20 d. Services to improve the quality and availability of
21 all types of child care. ~~The services may include but are~~
22 ~~not limited to making nurse consultants available to support~~
23 quality improvement.

24 Sec. 7. Section 256I.9, subsection 4, paragraphs a, b, and
25 c, Code 2016, are amended to read as follows:

26 a. A school ready children grant shall be awarded to an
27 area board annually, as funding is available. Receipt of
28 continued funding is subject to submission of the required
29 annual report data and the state board's determination that
30 the area board is ~~measuring~~ making progress, through the use
31 of specific, quantifiable performance measures and locally
32 identified community-wide indicators, ~~developed by the state~~
33 ~~board with input from area boards, progress toward and is~~
34 achieving the desired results and other results identified
35 in the community plan. Each area board shall participate in

1 ~~the levels of excellence rating system~~ designation process to
2 measure the area's success. If the use of performance measures
3 and community-wide indicators does not show that an area board
4 has made progress toward achieving the results identified in
5 the community plan, the state board shall require a plan of
6 corrective action, provide technical assistance, withhold any
7 increase in funding, or withdraw grant funding.

8 *b.* The state board shall distribute school ready children
9 grant moneys to area boards with approved comprehensive
10 community plans based upon a determination of an early
11 childhood Iowa area's ~~readiness to effectively utilize the~~
12 ~~grant moneys~~ designation. ~~The grant moneys shall be adjusted~~
13 ~~for other federal and state grant moneys to be received by the~~
14 ~~area for services to children from zero through age five.~~

15 *c.* An area board's readiness designation shall be determined
16 by evidence of successful collaboration among public and
17 private early care, education, health, and human services
18 interests in the area or a documented program design that
19 supports a strong likelihood of a successful collaboration
20 between these interests. ~~Other criteria which may be used by~~
21 ~~the state board to determine readiness and funding amounts for~~
22 ~~an area include one or more of the following:~~

23 ~~(1) The levels of excellence rating received by the area.~~

24 ~~(2) Evidence of the area's capacity to successfully~~
25 ~~implement the services in the area's community plan.~~

26 ~~(3) Local public and private funding and other resources~~
27 ~~committed to implementation of the community plan.~~

28 ~~(4) The adequacy of plans for commitment of local funding~~
29 ~~and other resources for implementation of the community plan.~~

30 Sec. 8. Section 256I.10, subsection 3, Code 2016, is amended
31 by striking the subsection.

32 Sec. 9. Section 256I.11, subsection 4, paragraph b, Code
33 2016, is amended by striking the paragraph.

34 Sec. 10. Section 256I.13, Code 2016, is amended to read as
35 follows:

1 ~~256I.13 Home visitation~~ Family support program — funding
2 intent.

3 1. In order to implement the legislative intent stated in
4 sections ~~135.106~~ and ~~256I.9~~, that priority for ~~home visitation~~
5 family support program funding be given to programs using
6 evidence-based or promising models for ~~home visitation~~ family
7 support, it is the intent of the general assembly to ~~phase in~~
8 ~~the funding priority as follows:~~

9 ~~a. By July 1, 2013, twenty-five percent of state funds~~
10 ~~expended for home visiting programs are for evidence-based or~~
11 ~~promising program models.~~

12 ~~b. By July 1, 2014, fifty percent of state funds expended~~
13 ~~for home visiting programs are for evidence-based or promising~~
14 ~~program models.~~

15 ~~c. By July 1, 2015, seventy-five percent of state funds~~
16 ~~expended for home visiting programs are for evidence-based or~~
17 ~~promising program models.~~

18 ~~d. By~~ that by July 1, 2016, ninety percent of state
19 funds expended for ~~home visiting~~ family support programs
20 are shall be used for evidence-based or promising program
21 models. The remaining ten percent of funds may be used for
22 innovative program models that do not yet meet the definition
23 of evidence-based or promising programs.

24 2. For the purposes of ~~this section~~, unless the context
25 otherwise requires or unless otherwise provided under federal
26 law:

27 ~~a. "Evidence-based program"~~ means a program that is based
28 on scientific evidence demonstrating that the program model
29 is effective. An evidence-based program shall be reviewed
30 on site and compared to program model standards by the model
31 developer or the developer's designee at least every five years
32 to ensure that the program continues to maintain fidelity
33 with the program model. The program model shall have had
34 demonstrated significant and sustained positive outcomes in an
35 evaluation utilizing a well-designed and rigorous randomized

1 controlled research design or a quasi-experimental research
2 design, and the evaluation results shall have been published in
3 a peer-reviewed journal.

4 *b. "Family support programs"* includes group-based parent
5 education or home visiting programs that are designed to
6 strengthen protective factors, including parenting skills,
7 increasing parental knowledge of child development, and
8 increasing family functioning and problem solving skills. A
9 family support program may be used as an early intervention
10 strategy to improve birth outcomes, parental knowledge, family
11 economic success, the home learning environment, family and
12 child involvement with others, and coordination with other
13 community resources. A family support program may have a
14 specific focus on preventing child maltreatment or ensuring
15 children are safe, healthy, and ready to succeed in school.

16 *c. "Promising program"* means a program that meets all of the
17 following requirements:

18 (1) The program conforms to a clear, consistent family
19 support model that has been in existence for at least three
20 years.

21 (2) The program is grounded in relevant empirically based
22 knowledge.

23 (3) The program is linked to program-determined outcomes.

24 (4) The program is associated with a national or state
25 organization that either has comprehensive program standards
26 that ensure high-quality service delivery and continuous
27 program quality improvement or the program model has
28 demonstrated through the program's benchmark outcomes that the
29 program has achieved significant positive outcomes equivalent
30 to those achieved by program models with published significant
31 and sustained results in a peer-reviewed journal.

32 (5) The program has been awarded the Iowa family support
33 credential and has been reviewed on site at least every five
34 years to ensure the program's adherence to the Iowa family
35 support standards approved by the state board or a comparable

1 set of standards. The on-site review is completed by an
2 independent review team that is not associated with the program
3 or the organization administering the program.

4 3. a. The data reporting requirements adopted by the
5 state board pursuant to [section 256I.4](#) for the family support
6 programs targeted to families expecting a child or with newborn
7 and infant children through age five and funded through the
8 state board shall require the programs to participate in a
9 state-administered internet-based data collection system. ~~The~~
10 ~~data reporting requirements shall be developed in a manner to~~
11 ~~provide for compatibility with local data collection systems.~~
12 The state board's annual report submitted each January to
13 the governor and general assembly under [section 256I.4](#) shall
14 include family support program outcomes ~~beginning with the~~
15 ~~January 2015 report.~~

16 b. The data on families served that is collected by the
17 family support programs funded through the early childhood
18 Iowa initiative shall include but is not limited to basic
19 demographic information, services received, funding utilized,
20 and program outcomes for the children and families served. The
21 state board shall adopt performance benchmarks for the family
22 support programs and shall revise the Iowa family support
23 credential to incorporate the performance benchmarks on or
24 before January 1, 2014.

25 c. The state board shall identify minimum competency
26 standards for the employees and supervisors of family support
27 programs funded through the early childhood Iowa initiative.
28 ~~The state board shall submit recommendations concerning the~~
29 ~~standards to the governor and general assembly on or before~~
30 ~~January 1, 2014.~~

31 d. The state board shall adopt criminal and child abuse
32 record check requirements for the employees and supervisors of
33 family support programs funded through the early childhood Iowa
34 initiative.

35 e. The state board shall develop a plan to implement a

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1 coordinated intake and referral process for publicly funded
2 family support programs in order to engage the families
3 expecting a child or with newborn and infant children through
4 age five in all communities in the state by July 1, 2015.